

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 98-049-C - ORDER NO. 98-974  
DECEMBER 7, 1998

IN RE:	Application of HTC Communications, Inc.	)	ORDER GRANTING	✓ MR
	for a Certificate of Public Convenience and	)	FLEXIBLE	
	Necessity to Provide Local Exchange Service	)	REGULATORY	
	to Customers in Horry County and those	)	TREATMENT FOR	
	portions of Georgetown County known as the	)	LOCAL SERVICES	
	Waccamaw Neck and the City of	)		
	Georgetown.	)		

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the request of HTC Communications, Inc. (“HTCC”) for flexible regulatory treatment of its local telecommunications services comparable to that authorized for NewSouth Communications by Order No. 98-165 in Docket No. 97-467-C. HTCC requests that the Commission adopt for HTCC’s competitive intrastate local exchange services a rate structure incorporating maximum rate levels with the flexibility for adjustment below the maximum rate levels that will have been previously approved by the Commission. Further, HTCC requests that its local exchange service tariff filings be presumed valid upon filing, subject to the Commission’s right within thirty (30) days to institute an investigation of the tariff filing, in which case the tariff filing would be suspended pending further Order of the Commission; and that any such tariff filings will be subject to the same monitoring process as similarly situated competitive local exchange carriers.

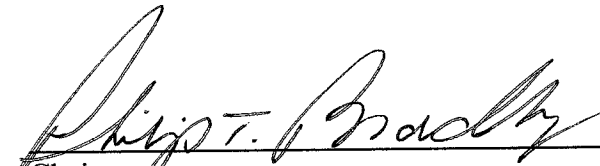
The Commission's Executive Director instructed the Staff to publish a Notice of Filing of HTCC's request through the Commission's Subscription Service. The purpose of the Notice of Filing was to inform the interested parties of HTCC's request and of the manner and time in which to request participation in the proceeding. No Petitions to Intervene or comments were received regarding HTCC's request.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission finds that HTCC's request should be approved. The Commission has not received opposition to the request, and the Commission has approved similar regulatory treatment for other carriers. Therefore, the Commission concludes that HTCC should be regulated in a manner similar to that methodology granted to NewSouth Communications by Order No. 98-165 in Docket No. 97-467-C, as outlined above.

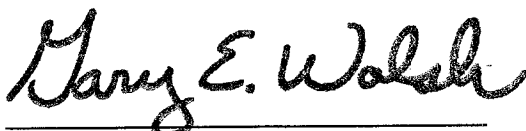
This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director  
(SEAL)